

Message Text

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41

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 DHA-02 SCS-03 SCA-01 /081 W

----- 071355

R 171332Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3420

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 4852

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, WA, SF, SHUM

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN NAMIBIA

REFS: (A) STATE 292584, (B) PRETORIA 4464

1. ACCORDING INFORMATION OBTAINED BY EMBOFF DURING VISIT LAST WEEK TO NAMIBIA, NO REPEAT NO LUTHERAN PASTORS OR "PROMINENT" LAYMEN ARE BEING DETAINED. FIVE OF SIX PERSONS SCHEDULED FOR TRIAL IN FEBRUARY ARE LUTHERANS (EHNDRIK SHIKONGO IS CATHOLIC). MAJORITY OF OTHER DETAINEES ARE MEMBERS OF LUTHERAN CHURCH BUT ARE NOT PROMINENT LUTHERAN LAYMEN PER SE. DEPT. MAY BE ABLE TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT SITUATION FROM DEAN ERWIN GRISWOLD WHO INTERVIEWED NUMBER OF DETAINEES DURING RECENT VISIT TO NAMIBIA ON BEHALF OF LUTHERAN WORLD FEDERATION (REF B). EMBASSY HAD NO CONTACT WITH HIM AFTER NAMIBIA VISIT AND WOULD BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING HIS IMPRESSIONS.

2. CHURCH AND OTHER SOURCES IN WINDHOEK ESTIMATE THAT APPROXIMATELY TWENTY PEOPLE CURRENTLY ARE BEING HELD IN

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NAMIBIA UNDER TERRORISM ACT AND/OR PROCLAMATION R17. THIS

FIGURE AGREES WITH THAT IN SAG AIDE-MEMOIRE OF DEC. 5.
BECAUSE OF PPOR COMMUNICATIONS WITHIN NAMIBIA, IT IS
DIFFICULT TO BE MORE ACCURATE. FOR EXAMPLE, ANGLICAN VICAR
GENERAL TOLD EMBOFF IN WINDHOEK DEC 12 THAT BLACK ANGLICAN
PASTOR AND NURSE IN ANGLICAN HOSPITAL IN OWAMBO HAD BEEN
ARRESTED PREVIOUS DAY, BUT HE HAD NO INFORMATION REGARDING
NAMES OR CIRCUMSTANCES.

3. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFOR-
MATION ON DETAINEES. WE DOUBT SAG WILL OFFICIALLY PROVIDE
MORE DETAILS THAN THOSE CONTAINED IN AIDE-MEMOIRE.
BOWDLER

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